

PRESIDENT'S REPORT FOR VOLUME 46

Welcome to the California Botanical Society's 1999–2000 program year. New and returning Council Members for the program year include myself; Wayne Ferren, Past President; Susan D'Alcama, First Vice-President; Fosiee Tohbaz, Second Vice-President; Dean Kelch, Recording Secretary; Mary Butterwick, Treasurer; Sue Bainbridge, Corresponding Secretary; Council Members Jim Shevock, Diane Elam, and Bian Tan; Dennis Wall, Graduate Student Representative; and *Madroño* Editor, Kristina Schierenbeck. The Society thanks each of you! New Officers for this program year include Fosiee Tohbaz and Dean Kelch.

Susan D'Alcama tried to retire early in her third year as First Vice-President. Although in "retirement," she organized an excellent slate of six speakers for the 1999–2000 program year Lecture Series. The Society greatly appreciates her help. Lectures are held on the third Thursday of each month from October through May, in the Valley Life Sciences Building at the University of California, Berkeley Campus. The lectures were well attended this year by members as well as many non-members. All members are invited and encouraged to attend the lectures and receptions. An informal reception followed each presentation which allowed an opportunity to mingle with the speaker, other botanists, and guests. The Jepson and University Herbaria furnished refreshments. The Council appreciates Dennis Wall's help with room reservations, projection equipment, and the reception. We again thank Brent Mishler and the Jepson and University Herbaria for providing space for the Council meetings, Lecture Series, and receptions.

Fosiee Tohbaz organized an outstanding Annual Banquet, which was held on 19 February 2000, at the U.C. Berkeley Faculty Men's Club. The guest speaker was Dr. Jim Doyle, Department of Evolution and Ecology. His lecture was entitled, "What do we know about the origin of angiosperms?" President Little presented "Outstanding Service Awards" to Board Members in recognition of their contributions to the organization. Recipients included Fosiee Tohbaz and Dennis Wall. The next Banquet will be held at Chico State.

The Society again acknowledges the contributions of Mary Butterwick as Treasurer for the Society. Although

her third and final year ended mid-1999, her replacement was not confirmed until the end of 1999.

Mary therefore volunteered to continue her term through the 1999–2000 program year. Roy Buck will become the new Treasurer. Dean Kelch commenced his position this program year as the new Recording Secretary. Susan Bainbridge has done an outstanding job as Corresponding Secretary and has volunteered to remain as Corresponding Secretary for one more year. The Society also appreciates the contributions of Council Members Jim Shevock, Diane Elam, and Bian Tan. Kristina Schierenbeck continues to do an excellent job as Editor of *Madroño*. She has worked through a large backlog of manuscripts and is close to getting *Madroño* back on schedule. Nominations for her replacement are currently being solicited.

Council Members retiring after the 1999–2000 program year include myself (3 years as President), Susan D'Alcama (3 years as First Vice-President), Mary Butterwick (4 years as Treasurer), Fosiee Tohbaz (1 year as 2nd Vice President), and Dennis Wall (2 years as Graduate Student Representative). New officers for the 2000–2001 program year include Bruce Baldwin, President; Rob Myatt, 1st Vice-President; Roy Buck, Treasurer; and Kirsten Johanus, Graduate Student Representative.

John LaDuke (University of North Dakota) and Curtis Clark (Cal Poly Pomona) have volunteered to establish a web site for the Society. The Council believes the web site is an excellent way for the Society to increase its membership. The lower than anticipated individual and institutional membership renewals for year 2000, are a concern to the Council as membership revenues are the only means by which *Madroño* can continue to be published. We believe renewals will increase after Madrono gets back on schedule, which will be soon. If you have not yet renewed please do so and encourage others to take out a student, individual, family, or institutional membership. It has been my pleasure to serve as the Society's President for the past three years and to work with the many outstanding volunteers who have served on the Council.

—R. JOHN LITTLE, Ph.D.
10 June 2000